

### Inside this issue:

Message from the Mayor	1
Launch of Medical Homes Initiative	2
First District Government Job Fair	2
CityVista Groundbreaking at Former Wax Museum Site	3
Breast Cancer Awareness Month	3
National Lead Safe Week Begins in DC with Informational Fair	3
District Activities	4
Community News	4
Upcoming Events	4

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## Message from the Mayor

As many of our readers know, I recently announced that I will not be seeking a third term as mayor of Washington, DC. Although I've been mayor for two terms, my service to the District began in 1995, when I was appointed Chief Financial Officer. At the end of my current term, I will have devoted the last 11 years of my life to making this city a better place.

As I told supporters at Hillcrest Recreation Center on September 29, my primary reason for not serving a third term is the feeling that it's time for a change. It's time for me to begin a new chapter in my life and to look for new challenges. That said, few jobs can present more of a challenge than being mayor of a city that needed so much help when I first took office.

Together, I believe we've lifted up a city that had fallen into disrepair. We spread economic development across all eight wards. We created a government that actually responds to citizen requests. And we built a financial house with a firm foundation. I believe the success we've seen over the past seven years is unprecedented in our city and I'm incredibly proud of the progress we've made.

In January 2007, when my term is up, I want to leave this city even better than it is today. With our DC Council back from its recess and in full swing, I'm looking forward to a busy legislative session. I recently outlined my top 10 priorities for the upcoming session. Among them are:

- **National Capital Medical Center:** Residents who live east of the Anacostia River deserve improved access to hospital services and quality health care.
- **Omnibus Public Safety Act:** Residents expect to be protected against violent crime in our neighborhoods. Over the past seven years, we have made it a priority to lower crime rates in the District, yet we can always do more to protect our most vulnerable residents.
- **Ballpark Construction:** This fall, the Sports and Entertainment Commission will forward to the Council a contract to build the ballpark in Southeast DC along South Capitol Street. I will be working to seek approval from the Council in a timely manner.
- **New Communities Financing:** We laid out a vision earlier this year for combining housing strategies with human services and other investments to build New Communities in key District neighborhoods. We will seek Council's approval to leverage this investment and begin the process of rebuilding key communities in partnership with residents who live there.
- **Central Library:** I believe that a new central library at the former Convention Center site will be an important anchor for one of the city's most important developments, creating a public facility and attraction for residents and visitors right in the heart of downtown. I hope to develop a full proposal by the end of this year to be submitted for Council approval as part of the former Convention Center site plan.

For a full list of my priorities for the upcoming year, please read the [news release](#) on DC.gov.



# Launch of Medical Homes Initiative

Two years ago, I made a commitment to boost primary care in the District of Columbia through the Medical Homes Initiative, and I'm happy to say that it has become a reality. Last week, I announced the recipients of Medical Homes grants for the first nine Medical Homes projects in underserved neighborhoods. The District will invest nearly \$17 million in the Medical Homes Initiative over the next three years.

The goal of Medical Homes is to invest in the physical, clinical, and management infrastructure of the District's nonprofit community health care centers. In turn, they can offer high quality primary care to residents, such as regular preventive check-ups and care for chronic conditions like diabetes and high blood pressure.

This novel initiative will ultimately improve the health of District residents. And, it will lower the District's overall health care costs by eliminating unnecessary and expensive emergency room visits and hospitalizations. Primary care is vitally important to improving the health outcomes of our residents, so I am very pleased to see this project moving forward. Below you'll find a list of the grant recipients, with a description of each:

- **Jose Aponte, Chief Operating Officer of Unity Health Care:** Unity is the recipient of two preconstruction grants, one for a new Anacostia Health Center in Ward 8 and one for a new Hunt Place Health Center in Ward 7.
- **Flora Terrell Hamilton, Executive Director of Family & Medical Counseling Service:** Family & Medical Counseling is the recipient of a preconstruction grant to expand its health center in Ward 8.
- **George Jones, Executive Director of Bread for the City:** Bread for the City is the recipient of two preconstruction grants, one for a new health center site in Ward 5 and another to expand its current site in Ward 2.
- **Maria Gomez, President and CEO of Mary's Center for Maternal & Child Care:** Mary's Center is the recipient of a preconstruction grant to expand its newly opened health center in Ward 4.
- **Kelly Sweeney McShane, Executive Director of Community of Hope:** Community of Hope is the recipient of a preconstruction grant to expand its health center in Ward 1.
- **Juan Romagoza, Executive Director of La Clínica del Pueblo:** La Clinica is the recipient of a preconstruction grant to expand its facility in Ward 1.
- **Ivan Stangel, Dental Director of So Others Might Eat:** SOME is the recipient of a construction grant to expand its dental services in Ward 5.

I congratulate all of the recipients for stepping up to help expand and improve primary care in the District. I'm looking forward to helping them create a healthier District of Columbia.

## First District Government Job Fair

Last week, on October 5, the District of Columbia's Office of Personnel – under the leadership of director Lisa Marin – hosted the first-ever District Government Job Fair at the Hilton Washington, at 1919 Connecticut Avenue, NW. The event was a huge success with more than 5,200 people registering from all eight wards in the District – from Northwest to Southeast. Residents from Maryland, Virginia and beyond our region also participated in the job fair.

On hand were representatives from 50 government agencies – including DC Fire/EMS, the Metropolitan Police Department, DC Youth Rehabilitation Services and the DC Department of Parks and Recreation. There was a good mixture of jobs ranging from entry-level to senior staff positions.

Another highlight of the fair was an array of seminars and workshops where attendees could learn about: How to Become a Paramedic/EMT, How to Complete the DC 2000 Employment Application, How to Address Ranking Factors, and How to Prepare Your Resume.

In the past seven years we have made tremendous strides in improving the quality and efficiency of the District government. I believe that in order for us to build on our progress, we must keep looking for the best and the brightest to join our workforce. I want to continue to encourage residents across our city to become part of a hardworking, effective District government.



BRC Alerts

DCLMPC Partnership  
Works!

DCOA Spotlight on Aging

DHS Outreach

DISB DC Financial  
Gateway Express

OAG Inter Alia...

OAPIA Updates

OPGD Grant Funding  
Alerts

# CityVista Groundbreaking at Former Wax Museum Site

On October 3, I joined local officials for a celebration of the CityVista groundbreaking at 5th and K Streets, NW – the former site of our city's wax museum.

CityVista is an exciting public-private partnership that will bring new mixed-use development to Mount Vernon Triangle. It will include a 55,000-square-foot urban lifestyle Safeway that will house a Starbucks, Bergmann's Dry Cleaners and a SunTrust bank. In addition, there will be 685 residences and 60,000 square feet of additional retail space. Twenty percent of all residences are reserved as affordable housing.

What's novel is that CityVista is the result of an inspiring partnership among private developers and the District. CityVista is a venture of Lowe Enterprises Real Estate Group, CIM Group, Bundy Development Corporation, The Neighborhood Development Company and National Capital Revitalization Corporation (NCRC).

The groundbreaking on October 3 was a chance to celebrate the beginning of a unique and innovative development that's the result of a true citywide, and regional partnership. When it's complete, CityVista will change the Mount Vernon Triangle neighborhood for the better.

And what's that mean? It means:

- Jobs for our residents who need them
- Affordable housing, creating new homeowners
- New retail opportunities for residents and visitors
- New restaurants
- And transit-oriented development to benefit our environment

And it means connecting residents and businesses in the Shaw neighborhood to the huge economic benefits generated by our thriving new Convention Center and the New York Avenue Metro. When I cut the ribbon on the new Convention Center, I talked about how it's more than just a building. The convention center is a catalyst—it's an economic engine, churning out jobs, revenue and vitality to the immediate area where it lives and the neighborhoods around it.

As Mayor, it's been my goal to bring development to our city's downtown – and expand that development into our neighborhoods. And we are closer than ever to reaching our goal. Consider a few neighborhoods that are thriving with mixed-use and innovative development:

- Columbia Heights, not far from CityVista
- Barracks Row (which won last year's Main Street award)
- Gallery Place
- and U Street

In breaking ground at CityVista, we're forming a catalyst for the creation of a new neighborhood core.

## Breast Cancer Awareness Month

This is a reminder to our readers that October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month in the District of Columbia. I continue to urge women in our city to get mammograms and other screenings to help reverse the District's high rates of mortality from breast cancer.

Breast cancer continues to be a very serious health issue in the District of Columbia. While we know that the chance of a woman developing invasive breast cancer is about 1 in 7, early detection continues to be the best weapon we have in fighting this disease. Early detection can reduce breast cancer mortality by 30 percent among women over age 50, the primary group at risk for breast cancer.

The mission of the Department of Health's Project WISH (Women Into Staying Healthy) is to reduce the District's breast, cervical, and ovarian cancer rates through the provision of health education, technical expertise, case management, and coordination of early detection services.

The multi-faceted program provides free cancer education, screening, and diagnostic services to low-income District women with little or no health insurance. In 2004, Project WISH scheduled 2,266 appointments and paid for 1,163 mammography screenings.

Project WISH is funded by local and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention funds to provide mammograms, Pap tests and treatment for uninsured low-income women who are residents of the District. For more information, call the Department of Health Project WISH at (202) 442-5900 or (202) 671-5000. For information in Spanish, call (202) 442-9128.

## National Lead Safe Week Begins in DC with Informational Fair

The District government and Lead Safe DC are co-hosting the "DC Lead Safe Fair" 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, October 15, at the Housing Finance Agency, 815 Florida Avenue NW. The event, which kicks off the city's participation in National Lead Safe Week, features free lead screening for children ages 6 and under, pregnant women and nursing mothers, information on lead poisoning prevention, health insurance and lead abatement programs, refreshments and games for children.



## District Activities



Mayor Williams and DC Council members broke ground on the new CityVista housing and retail development site at 5th and K Streets, NW.



Mayor Williams served as a judge in the Food Network's "Iron Chef America" competition. The winning chef, Morou Ouattara from Signatures Restaurant in Penn Quarter, will go to New York to face nationally known chefs in the Iron Chef competition.

## Community News

- [Mayor Williams Asks Council to Approve Living Wage for District Workers](#)
- [DC Armory Shelter Closes After Successfully Helping 274 Katrina Evacuees](#)
- [The District Launches the Taxicab Information Project](#)

## Upcoming Events

[View All News Releases](#)

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|--------------|--|
| <b>10/15</b> | <b>National Lead Safe Week Informational Fair</b><br>10 am – 2 pm<br>DC Housing Finance Agency<br>815 Florida Avenue, NW                       |
| <b>10/15</b> | <b>DMH "Race for Mental Health"</b><br>8 am<br>Rock Creek Park<br>16th and Kennedy Streets, NW   |
| <b>10/22</b> | <b>Household Hazardous Waste/E-Cycling Collection</b><br>9 am – 3 pm<br>Carter Barron Amphitheatre parking lot<br>16th and Kennedy Streets, NW |
| <b>11/12</b> | <b>Household Hazardous Waste/E-Cycling Collection</b><br>9 am – 3 pm<br>Trash Transfer Station<br>3200 Benning Road, NE                        |

